

REMARKS

The present Amendment And Request For Reconsideration is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed 28 December 2005 for the above-identified patent application.

The patent application was originally filed with claims 1-25. Claims 20-25 have been withdrawn. In the present response, the Applicants amend claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 13. The Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the issues. No new matter has been entered by this amendment. As apparent, claims 1-20 as amended are now pending for further examination.

*In the Office Action of 28 December 2005, the Examiner rejected claims of the application based on Blalock et al. (US Patent No. 6,344,641).* In response, the Applicants respectfully disagrees and submits that all pending claims of the application are allowable for at least the following reasons.

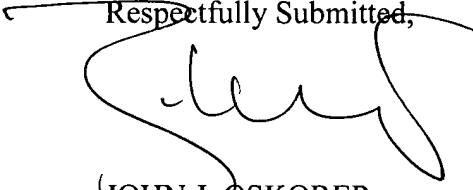
The Applicants have amended the claims to include the switch driver circuits as described in relation to FIGs. 7 and 8, for example. This enables color-controllable lights along a decorative light strand, for example, to be driven with use of a common driver switch for each color control terminal of each color-controllable light. This is what is recited in the claims. The use of switches adjacent each color-controllable light (as in Blalock et al.) along a decorative light strand would be impractical. The circuit in Blalock et al. utilizes switches that do not have switch driver outputs provided at each color-control terminal of each RGB LED. Again, this is advantageous in that RGB LEDs may be driven with use of a common driver switch for each color control terminal of each color-controllable light.

A common driver switch may be utilized for each color control terminal of each color-controllable light since time-multiplexing is utilized at the color-control driver

outputs. Time-multiplexing color-control signals from switch driver outputs is not taught or suggested in the prior art, and is advantageous to reduce the number of lines or wires provided to the lights. See e.g. the last line of the Abstract.

Based on the Amendment and comments above, the Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claims and allow the application.

Thank you. Please feel free to contact the undersigned for any reason if it would expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully Submitted,  
  
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